

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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July 11, 2006

Secretary Dirk Kempthorne
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street N.W.
Washington DC 20240

Dear Secretary Kempthorne:

I am writing to request that the Minerals Management Service (MMS) schedule public scoping meetings in Massachusetts to aid the organization in its preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Cape Wind Energy Project in Nantucket Sound, Massachusetts. To provide a meaningful opportunity for members of the public and stakeholders in the project to participate in this process, the MMS should extend the public comment deadline to accommodate the public meetings. This will allow the public sufficient time to respond to the MMS's scoping notice. This is the ideal time to offer public hearings as the summer months provide a great opportunity to reach a substantial number of year-round residents, part-time residents, and visitors to the Cape Cod area who have a mutual interest in this project.

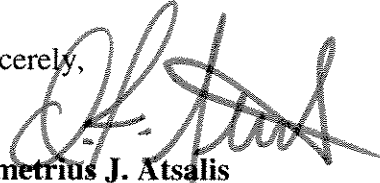
There have been several new developments, as well as additional sources of information, that have been made available since the Army Corps of Engineers held their original public scoping meetings in 2002, and the Cape Wind Energy Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement hearings of 2004. These "new developments" include the "notice of project change" filed with the state, the Department of Defense studies on radar interference caused by wind turbines, the recent Federal Aviation Administration findings of "hazard" for wind turbines in proximity to Air Force installations and airports, and the additional alternative energy projects and state-wide renewable energy initiatives that are now under discussion in the Commonwealth. Perhaps, most importantly, interested parties on Cape Cod would be offered the opportunity to comment on new legislative initiatives proposed in the Energy Policy Act of 2005. It is only fitting that the

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public have the benefit to fully understand and comment on the scoping process to give a true representative sample of the sentiment towards the proposed Cape Wind project.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Atsalis', written over the printed name.

Demetrius J. Atsalis
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
2nd Barnstable District